This Issue of the A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Consists of 2 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accurate and editorial interpretation of matters affecting labor accurately to the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Be silent, or say something better than silence.—Pythagoras.

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EDITORIALS

Benefits Gained by Trade Union Members

Antilabor columnists and economists and similar spokesmen for low-wage and long-hour employers frequently question the validity of the benefits which working men and women receive as the direct result of their membership in trade unions.

The favorite question of these hired advocates of low living standards for the millions who do practically all of the useful work under our system for the production and distribution of wealth is, What do union members get for their dues? And these mercenary pencil pushers, whose knowledge of the facts about trade unionism is quite down to zero, usually answer their own absurd question with the equally absurd assertion that the benefits are negligible.

Of course even a superficial examination of trade union records would reveal the complete falsity of these statements. But the outstanding characteristic of these antilabor columnists and economists is their refusal to admit the facts even when confronted with them in such volume that continuance in the pathway of untruth requires closed eyes, a twisted mind, and a determination to persist in misrepresentation—at least as long as the antiunion employers' money continues to fill their pay envelopes.

A late exhibition of the facts regarding the benefits which trade unionists derive from their membership in bona fide unions, whose policy is to negotiate agreements relative to wages, hours and work conditions with employers and then live up to the agreements, is contained in the report of Harvey W. Brown, vice president of the International Association of Machinists, relative to the recent increase in membership of that organization and the higher living standards secured by increased wages, which, undoubtedly, is one of the main reasons for the phenomenal growth of the Association.

According to Mr. Brown, the Association increased its net new membership by 82,487 during July, August, September and October—an increase of over 8,000 per month for the five months. This increase brought the membership of the Association close to the 200,000 mark, which is the largest in its pre-conference history and exceed by 130,000 the strength before the business depression.

With regard to wages (and here is a mouthful for the antilabor columnists and economists) Mr. Brown asserts that the Machinists Association has secured higher pay for practically all of its members during the last year, the increases ranging from five per cent to as high as fifty per cent.

Emphasizing the policy of advancing the standards of its members through agreements negotiated with employers, the Association finalized eighteen contracts in one week recently in twelve cities scattered through eight States. All of the contracts provided substantial increases in wages, some of them adding as much as 30 cents an hour to former wage rates.

Incidentally, the Association's policy of living up to its agreements after they are negotiated enables the officers to claim that it has more agreements than any other labor organization in the world.

The record of the International Association of Machinists in enabling its members to provide higher living standards for themselves and their families is not an isolated instance of the benefits derived from carrying a trade union card and paying the dues required for membership. The record is duplicated by dozens of national and international unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

But despite these indisputable facts, antilabor subservives continue, and undoubtedly will continue, to harp on the alleged lack of tangible benefits flowing into the hands of trade unionists as the result of their union membership.

Goethe said, "Wisdom lies only in truth." Evidently the antilabor columnists and economists are so thoroughly steeped in wanton ignorance regarding trade unionism that they will probably never reach even the tablelands of verity which constitute the approach to knowledge as visioned by the German philosopher.

A. F. of L. Awarded Funds Illegally Seized by C. I. O. Union

The final chapter in the attempt of the C. I. O. union made up of members expelled from the A. F. of L. federal labor union composed of employes of the Simmons Furniture Company at Kenosha, Wisconsin, to seize and retain A. F. of L. funds, was written on November 12, when Circuit Judge E. B. Belden holding court in Kenosha, ordered $15,000 claimed by the C. I. O. union restored to the American Federation of Labor.

A review of this case is instructive in establishing a precedent relative to the legal rights of the American Federation of Labor in the funds of federal labor unions that are dissolved or expelled. It is also instructive in throwing light on the policy of C. I. O. unions of raiding A. F. of L. unions and appropriating union funds.

A number of years ago the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor organized the Simmons A. F. of L. union composed of federal labor unions chartered by the American Federation of Labor. When the Committee for Industrial Organization came along with its destructive policy, the president of the federal labor union, then the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor, affiliated the Federation of Labor for attempting to wreck A. F. of L. unions and for his Communist activities, also tried to force the federal labor union into affiliation with the C. I. O.

In response to requests from loyal members of the union, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, suspended the president and three of his associates suspended. Following the refusal of the suspended officers to observe the order of suspension the president of the union was expelled and the charter revoked in an effort to effect reorganization of the union with members loyal to the American Federation of Labor.

Despite a restraining order issued by the court on the application of the American Federation of Labor, the disloyal officers confiscated $15,000 of the union funds, carted the money down to Waukegan, Illinois, and deposited it in a box in a bank. Then confronting with an order of the court to deliver the money to the clerk of the court on a certain day under a threat of punishment for contempt, the C. I. O. attorney withdrew the $15,000 from the bank in Waukegan and reluctantly placed it upon the clerk's desk in the Kenosha court.

The case was finally ended on November 12 when Judge Belden ordered the impounded funds restored to the Simmons A. F. of L. union in Kenosha.

The court order was a definite victory for President Green, who, with Paul Smith, the personal representative in Milwaukee, were plaintiffs in the suit, and for the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor, which instituted the legal proceedings against the officials of the C. I. O. union in Kenosha and their faction. Joseph A. Padway, of Milwaukee, attorney for the American Federation of Labor, represented Mr. Green and Mr. Smith.

Judge Belden's decision definitely establishes the authority of the American Federation of Labor over federal labor unions chartered by it and should put an end to raids on A. F. of L. union funds promoted and finalized by unions affiliated with the Committee for Industrial Organization.

Labor Standards in Naval Construction

In his annual report to the President, Secretary of the Navy Swanson criticized the increasing cost of naval construction. In deploring this situation he used language which was quite generally interpreted as condemning the Public Contracts Act as directly responsible for the high cost of everything required by the Navy, from battleships to miscellaneous supplies.

The American Federation of Labor was largely responsible for the passage of the Public Contracts Act by the Congress of the United States. It was enacted for the express purpose of establishing decent labor conditions under all contracts for Government work and supplies totaling $10,000 or more, including contracts for the naval construction program. Incidentally the bill was opposed by representatives of every chiseling contractor dealing with the Government.

The terms of the Public Contracts Act are not onerous.

With regard to wages the measure prescribes that contractors must pay not less than the minimum wage determined by the Secretary of Labor to be the prevailing wage rate in the community where the work is performed. Surely this provision does not menace the Navy.

So far as hours are concerned the act prescribes that employes must not be required to work more than eight hours in any day or forty hours in any week. The forty-hour week is so generally applied that this limitation cannot be held unreasonable.

In a commendable endeavor to bar contractors on Government work from exploiting child labor the Act prohibits employment of boys under sixteen years of age and girls under eighteen years of age. With the constantly growing opposition against the employment of children in industry, very few people will interpose objection to this provision of the Act as out of line with the public welfare.

There are also provisions in the Act requiring sanitary plants, barring the employment of convicts and express prohibitions against contractors engaging in "kick-back" practices, with power conferred on the Secretary of Labor to withhold payments on contracts to contractors found guilty of applying this illegality.

Summed up, there are no provisions in the Public Contracts Act which should be condemned as hindering the construction of an adequate Navy or hampering any other Government activity.

The probability is that too much emphasis was placed on Secretary Swanson's implied criticism of the Public Contracts Act.

The American people are proud of their Navy. When they see it on parade they want to be sure that every element in it, from the nethermost armor plate in every hull to the highest point in the foretop, was constructed by workers enjoying the forty-hour week and paid at least the prevailing rate of wages, that all the work is done in sanitary buildings, and that none of it is tarnished by the labor of convicts or clouded by the labor of children.

We are sure that Secretary of the Navy Swanson has the same ambition for the Navy.

This achievement, which did not formerly obtain, is now guaranteed by the Public Contracts Act. Long life to it!

Child Labor Goods Would Be Banned From Commerce Under Senate Bill

Wheeler-Johnson Measure, Passed by U. S. Senate Last Summer, But Not Acted on by House, Applies Principle of Federal Law Restricting Sale of Convict-Made Goods to Child Labor Products.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The Child Labor Bill sponsored by Senator Wheeler of Montana and Senator Johnson of Colorado was thrown into the parliamentary spotlight during the recent session of Congress when the United States Senate not only passed it as a separate bill, in accordance with the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce, but also adopted it as an amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Bill in place of the original child labor provision in the bill as reported to the Senate by the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

The Labor Committee of the House of Representatives amended the Senate version of the Fair Labor Standards Bill by striking out the Wheeler-Johnson amendment and reincorporating the original child labor provision.

It is impossible to determine whether the Wheeler-Johnson bill will ultimately be included in the Fair Labor Standards Act during the special session of Congress, but the parliamentary situation lends added interest to the proposal.

The Wheeler-Johnson Bill closes the channels of interstate and foreign commerce to products made by the labor of children and declares that it shall be illegal for any one to sell such products for transportation in interstate and foreign commerce.

The bill also applies to child labor products the principle of the Federal law, held constitutional last year by the Supreme Court of the United States, prohibiting the transportation in interstate commerce from one State into another State shall be subject to the laws of the State into which they are transported.

Child Labor Defined

The act defines the term "child labor" as "employment of a human being under the age of sixteen years and as employment of a human being under the age of eighteen years at extra hazardous work," with the provision that the term "extra hazardous work" shall be based on facts found by the Secretary of Labor "as to the relative possibility of injury or detriment to health involved, in various types of employment after necessary information in the premises has been collected by him or derived by him from sources deemed to be reliable."

Commerce Ban

The text of the provision barring child labor goods from interstate

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LONGVIEW UNIONS RAISE WAGES SHORTEN HOURS

Longview, Wash., (AFLNS)—Among recent gains by unions here was that of the local Carpenters' Union, which established the 6-hour work day, with a scale of $1.33 1-3 per hour.

Painters have switched from the 8- hour to the 6-hour work day, retaining their previous wage scale.

Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers have also established the 6- hour day, although necessity allowing exceptions to 8 hours in cases where they are helping other tradesmen on the same job who have not yet set up the shorter work day. This local has also raised the minimum wage scale from 90 cents to $1 an hour.

Mooney Case Scheduled For U. S. Supreme Court

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The refusal of the Supreme Court of California to grant the plea of Tom Mooney for a writ of habeas corpus definitely schedules the case for consideration by the Supreme Court of the United States.

Mooney's plea before the high judicial body of California was based on his claim that he was convicted of participation in the San Francisco Preparedness Day bombing in 1916 by perjured testimony. The demand for a writ of habeas corpus was presented to the California Supreme Court two years ago following the refusal of the United States Supreme Court to consider the case because of the court's belief that Mooney had not exhausted every resource provided by the California courts.

In denying Mooney's application for a writ of habeas corpus the California court has now held, despite volumes of evidence to the contrary, that Mooney had a fair trial. In addition the court found "no substantial credible evidence" to show the commission of perjury by witnesses in the 1916 trial. Evidently the court went out of its way and declared that Mooney's conviction was justified.

Supreme Court Justice Langdon dissented from the opinion signed by five of the seven judges of the California court. He said:

"The question here involved is not the guilt or innocence of Thomas J. Mooney. The issue, as defined by the United States Supreme Court, is whether he was accorded due process of law at his trial for murder.

"In this dissenting opinion no useful purpose would be served by reviewing the evidence. The preponderance of the evidence and the evidence in the record leads me to conclude that on his trial petitioner was not accorded due process of law.

"For that reason, the writ of habeas corpus should issue."

The utterly shameless character of Mooney's trial in San Francisco was emphatically condemned by the 1917 convention of the American Federation of Labor, which declared that the majority of our citizens believe that the conviction of Mooney was brought about "through testimony which branded some of the witnesses as perjurers and those who evidenced by the procure subornation of perjury for the purpose of securing such reward as might be given to them for their testimony." On the basis of this belief the A. F. of L. recommended a new trial for Mooney. The position taken by the American Federation of Labor was later supported by Judge Griffin, the trial judge. He said that if the truth had been told the jury and the jury had, nevertheless, convicted Mooney, he would have set the conviction aside as a gross miscarriage of justice.

The view taken by the American Federation of Labor from the beginning that the conviction of Mooney was based upon testimony so flimsy that it should have had no standing in a court of law was also confirmed by two Federal Commissions—one appointed by President Wilson and one by President Hoover—which found the trial so tainted with perjury that Mooney's conviction was a disgrace to all traditions of American jurisprudence. Despite the accumulated evidence definitely showing that what the trial court accepted as warranting conviction was nothing but absolute perjury the Supreme Court of California has persistently refused to grant a new trial and Mooney still languishes in San Quentin Prison.

The Mooney case is not in reality limited to Mooney himself. There is a larger question. Can an innocent man, sent to prison for life on what is generally admitted to be perjured testimony, be deprived of his freedom permanently by the technicalities of a State law which makes no provision for a new trial even though the irregularities and essential injustice of the original trial are beyond question?

Our trust in the courts and the Supreme Court of the United States has ruled that mob intimidation destroys the due process of law prescribed by the Fourteenth Amendment. Shortly the Supreme Court, in considering the Mooney case, will have to answer this question: Are not mock trials and conviction equally destructive of due process of law?

All persons interested in the preservation of fundamental justice in our affirmative and order the State of California to remove the striped suit from Tom Mooney, open the doors of San Quentin Prison, and restore him to the liberty of which he has been unjustly deprived for twenty years.

Canada Tackles Task of Finding Right Jobs For the Unemployed

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Dominion and Provincial officials in Canada have undertaken to solve the knotty problem of finding the right kind of jobs for the unemployed. A recent conference in Ottawa started the effort, which embraces a classification plan to discover most suitable forms of work.

Much valuable data has already been obtained through registration of those seeking employment. It is found that many have every relief recipient categorized according to his aptitude for some form of employment. A special classification will likely be made for those who probably will never be employable.

Figures obtained last March on unemployment in Canada showed nearly 260,000 men and women who are employable but unemployed for the whole Dominion.

Heads of families and others receiving agricultural aid, now "unemployed" but awaiting improved crop conditions, numbered 70,000.

The largest number, 618,000, were listed as "not available for employment." Of this number 58,000 were unemployables and 560,000 of the non-worker type of dependents.

Unemployables were so classified by reason of some physical, mental or social handicap.

A. F. of L.-C. I. O. Parley Postponed

Conflicting Engagements of Conferees Require Setting Next Meeting Ahead to Nov. 29.

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—The resumed peace conference between representatives of the American Federation of Labor and the Committee for Industrial Organization, scheduled to meet here on November 15, was postponed until November 29.

Spokesmen for both groups said the postponement was necessary because of engagements of the conferees conflicting with the November 18 date.

The conference, composed of three representatives of the American Federation of Labor and ten representatives of the C. I. O., is attempting to compose the differences in the family of labor resulting from the organization two years ago of the Committee for Industrial Organization to put into effect an organizational policy overwhelmingly defeated by the 1935 A. F. of L. convention.

The 1936 convention of the A. F. of L. approved the action of the Federation's executive council in suspending ten unions for remaining affiliated with the C. I. O., which was held to be an organization dual to the American Federation of Labor.

The action of the 1936 convention was recalled by the 1937 convention, which, in addition, conferred authority upon the A. F. of L. Executive Council to revoke, at the discretion of the Council, the charters of each of the ten C. I. O. unions.

The peace conference was arranged immediately after the adjournment of the 1937 A. F. of L. convention according to terms jointly agreed to by the A. F. of L. Executive Council and representatives of the C. I. O.

At the two sessions of the conference already held the general situation underlying the controversy was considered, but no definite conclusions were reached regarding its settlement.

ORGANIZATION CAMPAIGN PROGRESSES IN MID-WEST

American Federation of Labor Representatives From Six States Review Achievements at Meeting in Chicago.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Splendid progress in the American Federation of Labor's organization campaign throughout the mid-west was reported at a regional conference of organizers held in Chicago, Nov. 14.

Called by Lawrence D. Hilton, Director of Organization, the meeting brought together Federation representatives from Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri, Indiana and Michigan.

Efforts to consolidate membership gains already achieved and to extend organizing drives into new fields were discussed at the conference. Among the speakers were Mr. Hilton, Matt Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, and Herman Winter, secretary of the Illinois Federation of Labor; and Spencer Miller, Director of Workers' Education.

The next regional conference of organizers, under Federation auspices, will be held at Albany, N. Y., Dec. 6 and 7 in conjunction with the New York State Federation of Labor.

LA FOLLETTE COMMITTEE CALLS MANUFACTURERS

Senate Civil Liberties Unit Subpoenas National Association and Other Employers Groups and Vigilante Association.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The Senate Civil Liberties Committee announced that it had summoned representatives of the National Association of Manufacturers and a number of other organizations to appear before the Committee in its investigation, under Senate Resolution No. 266, of violations of the rights of free speech and assembly and undue interference with the right of labor to organize and bargain collectively.

List of Subpoened Groups

Senator Robert M. La Follette of Wisconsin, who is chairman of the Committee, and Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah, a committee member, issued a joint statement saying the Committee "in continuing its study of the systematic efforts to use private vigilante groups in various sections of the country, subpoenas have been

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STRIKE BREAKERS HIRED BY KANSAS CITY STORE

Thugs Employed to Squelch Unions Which Sponsored Walkout in Protest Against Wages as Low as $5 For 72-Hour Week.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The expensive and thoroughly disgusting tactics often employed by antiunion employers in an effort to keep organization of employes, which means fair wages and decent working standards regularly, were again brought to the front in the strike recently declared by employes of the Jones Store Company, at Kansas City, Missouri.

$18 Per Day

The payment of decent wages to regular employes was emphatically refused, and the strike in effect is being met by what were reported to have been brought in and paid from $6 to thirteen dollars a day. Not only were most of these strike breakers incompetent workers for the jobs assigned, it is stated, but many were alleged to be thugs and hoodlums from out of the city.

The Jones Store Company's Kansas City store is one of a group of sixteen scattered throughout the country and is reported as operated by the Merchandise Securities Company, of New York City. Just another greedy "chain," workers say, just another build-up to hold down wages and pocket the difference—

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1,000,754 NEW MEMBERS GAINED BY A. F. OF L. SINCE AUG. 31, 1936

Secretary-Treasurer Morrison Reports That Membership of Affiliated Unions On November 19 Had Increased to 3,441,340.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Frank Morrison, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, made public the following report regarding the rapidly growing membership of unions affiliated with the Federation:

"The membership of the 104 National and International Unions and Local Unions directly affiliated to the American Federation of Labor as of November 19, 1937, is 3,441,340.

"This is a gain of 1,000,754 members over the average membership of the fiscal year ending August 31, 1936.

"This does not include the membership of the ten National and International Unions suspended September 5, 1936."

Postpone Government Reorganization Bills, A.F.L. Legislative Group Urges

National and International Union Representatives Want Pending Measures Deferred Until January Session of Congress; President Green Will Call Conference of A. F. of L. Executive Council and Department Heads to Consider Wage and Hour Bill.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—To protect the interests of Government employes, the American Federation of Labor's Legislative Conference, at a meeting held here on November 17, agreed to seek postponement of consideration of pending measures for Government reorganization until the next regular session of Congress.

The conference was attended by legislative representatives of the 104 national and international unions of the Federation and also by legislative representatives of the independent railroad brotherhoods.

It was the consensus of opinion at the meeting that action on Government reorganization should be deferred until the next Congressional session because such measures require careful study and the brief special session schedule is crowded with matters of emergency bills.

Amendments to safeguard the position of Government employes affected by any reorganization plan were discussed but no action was taken on them. Representatives of the railroad brotherhoods expressed "unalterable opposition" to changing independent status of the Interstate Commerce Commission and placing it under the jurisdiction of a Government department.

Wage-Hour Bill Conference Will Be Called by Green

Several speakers discussed the wage and hour bill but they were reminded by William C. Hushing, chairman of the conference, that the Federation's policy on this measure is to be determined at a conference to be called soon by President William Green. Under a decision adopted by the executive convention of the Federation, this conference will include the members of the Executive Council and the officers of the four Federation departments.

Representatives of three of these departments placed themselves on record at the meeting in favor of Senator Berry's plan for flat minimum wage and maximum hour standards to be set by Congress for oppressed and distressed workers in sweated industries, with power thereto to be placed in the Justice Department. General opposition was expressed to administration of the wage and hour standards by an independent Federal board or commission.

PORTSMOUTH TEAMSTERS WIN PAY HIKE CONTRACT

Portsmouth, Ohio (AFLNS).—Teamsters and Chauffeurs' Local Union No. 143 has secured 100 per cent unionization of the Carson-Cole Coal Company in a new contract which provides also for advances in wages and improved working conditions. This local, like others in this territory, is reported as gaining rapidly, seven new members being initiated at one recent meeting.

Deluge of Canadian Lumber Victimizes American Labor in Northwestern States

Oregon-Washington Lumber and Sawmill Workers Council Claims Lumber Produced by Low-Wage Workers in British Columbia and Imported Under Reciprocal Trade Agreement Has Cost American Workers $1,700,000 in Wages Lost in Six Months.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Union lumber and sawmill workers of the Northwest are complaining bitterly as a result of the importation into the United States, of millions of board feet of Douglas fir and western hemlock lumber from low-wage mills in Canada, following the recent reciprocal trade agreement between the two countries.

It is contended that the cheap lumber imports from British Columbia "actually rob" American lumber and mill workers of 52 days' work each year. In the first nine months of this year, imports cost them $1,700,000 in lost wages, for the one hundred million feet of Douglas fir and hemlock imported.

Low Wages Paid in British Columbia

The British Columbia mills, said to be enjoying a monopoly within their own country and the British Empire, also benefit by Government regulation of wages and hours. Mills can operate continuously on a 48-hour week basis, with minimum wages ranging from 35 and 40 cents per hour, with 22 cents per hour to about 10 per cent of

Compared with this, the minimum wages now in force in the States of Washington and Oregon is 62½ cents an hour. American mills and logging camps in these two states paid wages averaging $5.55 per 8-hour day during the first six months of this year.

Canadian Operators Emphasize Cheap Labor

A British Columbia trade association has circulated widely in the United States, an advertisement which sets up many claims in making a bid for more business on a price basis.

One paragraph states: "British Columbia is free of labor trouble, and the labor costs are definitely proven 20 per cent lower than that in the Puget Sound area, . . ."

Another paragraph of the Canadian clever bid for business states:

"By logging 'Crown Grant' timber, a few of which remain uncut, the operator is permitted to export absolutely free to the U. S. or other foreign markets, thus enabling him to enjoy alter-

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SAN PEDRO CLERKS WIN MONTGOMERY WARD PACT

San Pedro, Calif. (AFLNS).—Retail Clerks' Protective Union No. 905 has secured union contracts with approximately 80 per cent of San Pedro merchants, with the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce acting as collective bargaining mediator for the merchants, regarded as an unprecedented action.

One of the most victories achieved was a contract with' Montgomery Ward & Company, whose store here was closed for a time by an effective strike.

In this instance, Haskell Tidwell, business representative for the union, and H. B. Holloway, representing the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce, flew to San Francisco to meet with Western district heads of Montgomery Ward & Company, where an agreement was reached, bringing signal benefits to over a score of San Pedro employes of the firm.

Child Labor Goods Would Be Banned From Commerce Under Senate Bill

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or foreign commerce reads as follows:
Sec. 4. It shall be unlawful for any person who—

(a) has produced goods, wares, or merchandise in any State or Territory wholly or in part through the use of child labor, on or after January 1, 1939; or

(b) has taken delivery of such goods, wares, or merchandise in any State or Territory with knowledge of their character whether by purchase or on consignment, as commission merchant, agent for forwarding or other purposes, or otherwise,

to transport or cause to be transported, in any manner or by any means whatsoever, or aid or assist in obtaining transportation for or in transporting such goods, wares, or merchandise in interstate or foreign commerce or to sell such goods, wares, or merchandise for shipment in interstate or foreign commerce or with knowledge that shipment thereof in interstate or foreign commerce is intended.

State Laws Are Supreme

In an attempt to carry the principle of the prison labor law into the field of child labor the Wheeler-Johnson bill provides that "all goods, wares, and merchandise produced on or after January 1, 1938, wholly or in part through the use of child labor, transported into any State or Territory of the United States and remaining therein for use, consumption, sale, or storage, shall upon arrival and delivery in such State or Territory be subject to the operation and effect of the laws of such State or Territory to the same extent and in the same manner as though such goods, wares, and merchandise had been produced in such State or Territory, and shall be exempt therefrom by reason of being introduced in the original package or otherwise."

Child Labor Held Inhumane

In urging the enactment of the bill in person before the Committee on Interstate Commerce said:

"The necessity for curbing the employment of children grows each day. Important States lack any form of protection to children, and the problems arising from the employment of immature persons transcends the boundaries of States. It is a national wrong. Congress should act.

"The need of child-labor legislation increases proportionally with increased industrial activity. The gain ful employment of children is not only inhumane but uneconomic. When established and mature adults seek employment and are deprived of work because the labor of children nets greater profits, action must be taken."

Federal Amendment Blocked

"The child-labor amendment still pends. Processes of adoption have been rendered needlessly slow through well-organized propaganda disseminated by corporate interests. During the mechanics of adoption of the child-labor amendment, act within certain limits, and it is their duty so to do. Legislative steps should be and must be taken to safeguard to some measure at least this curse of an age designated by many as otherwise enlightened.

"Prompt enactment of the bill is a step toward ending the exploitation of children. Goods, articles, commodities unidentified but produced by the labor of children must no pollute the stream of interstate commerce."

Employers Dismiss Workers to Evade Occupational Disease Compensation

Toilers in Michigan Suffering From Silicosis, Lead Poisoning and Similar Industrial Diseases Have No Legal Protection Against Intimidation.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

As Michigan's new Workmen's Compensation Law went into effect, October 31, thousands of workmen found the prospect of being left upon the human scrap-heap, unwanted cogs in the wheels that have run the State's many industries, cast by heartless employers seeking merely to save a few pennies or perhaps a few dollars in each instance.

Widespread charges have been made that many employers have been seeking to avoid liability under the new law by eliminating as many workers as possible who might qualify in the categories of those poisoned by lead, internally maimed by the ravages of silicosis, or afflicted by other industrial diseases.

Medical examination of workers was being frantically rushed as the effective date of the new law approached, to determine which of their loyal employers have become inflicted, perhaps by the callousest negligence of management.

It was understood that those suffering from occupational diseases were stated for the limbo of the disowned, the forgotten. The simple reason is that those fired before the effective date of the statute granting compensation for industrial disease have no legal defense and no rights under the new law.

The Michigan situation is proving a travesty on justice, perhaps to an even greater degree than when the Illinois industrial disease compensation law went into effect last year, or previous comparable situations in Massachusetts and Wisconsin.

Reliable medical authorities estimated that at least eight thousand afflicted men would be fired in Michigan. These would include: 2,000 foundry workers with silicosis in various stages; 3,000 men with lead poisoning; 1,000 men with old lead poisonings and another 2,000 with miscellaneous ailments.

It is generally agreed that the very existence of many strong labor unions throughout the State will serve to mitigate the disaster, every one being alert to provide all possible protection for members and other possible victims.

CLOSED SHOP CONTRACT UPHELD BY N. Y. COURT

Justice May Refuses to Enjoin Company From Discharging Employes Who Are Not Union Members.

Brooklyn, N. Y. (AFLNS).—Supreme Court Justice Mitchell May, in a decision handed down here, upheld the validity of a closed shop agreement between an employer and a union.

The case came before Justice May on the application by the employees of the Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit Corporation for a temporary injunction to restrain the corporation from dismissing them because they refused to join the Transport Workers Union, which negotiated an agreement with the corporation early in October under which the B. M. T. was obligated to discharge any employee who, within 90 days of the signing of the a greement, failed or refused to join the union.

Closed Shop Is Legal

According to the ruling of the court, unions in New York are exempt from the anti-trust laws of the Federal government and a contract between an employer and a union providing for a closed shop "is in consonance with public policy of the State as expressed by the Legislature."

Asserting that the agreement between the corporation and the union "falls within the permissive provisions of the labor laws of this State as enacted by the Legislature, particularly Article 20 of the labor law which became effective July 1, 1937," the court continued:

"Subdivision 5 of Section 704 thereof specifically provides: . . . 'That nothing in this article shall preclude an employer from making an agreement with a labor organization, recognized as the representative of employees, membership therein, if such labor organization is the representative of employees as provided in Section 705.'

Approved by Public Policy

"In the light of that and similar enactments such as Paragraph 2 of Section 240 of the general business law, which specifically declares that the effect of the provisions forbidding monopoly, a contract between an employer and a union providing for what is commonly known as a 'closed shop' is in accordance with the public policy of the state as expressed by its Legislature.

"While it may be unfortunate that patriotic workers will be in effect coerced into joining a union against their will or face the alternative of sacrificing their employment, the critics of such a situation, if any, lies with the Legislature and not with the courts.

"Such a contractual agreement cannot be said to be violative of any statute which is specifically declared to be otherwise. The cases relied upon by petitioners in support of their motion prior to the legislation referred to and in light of the present enactment of subsequent decisions are to be regarded as no longer controlling."

Following is a number of decisions supporting the view that "closed shop agreements do not contravene any public policy" the court concluded:

"Petitioners have not established that they have been deprived of any rights guaranteed them under the state or federal constitutions. The motion for a temporary injunction is accordingly denied."

Morrison Opens Second Union Label Week In Nation's Caiptal

Ornburn and Other Labor Officials Join With A. F. of L. Secretary-Treasurer in Starting Big Exhibit and Carnival to Promote Sale of Union-Made Goods and Union Services

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The second annual observance of "Union Label Week" in the District of Columbia proved an outstanding success, according to officials, in helping to bring about a better understanding of labor by the public and in promoting union label products and union services.

Thirty-Five Union Label Exhibits

The big feature of the week was the Union Label Exhibit and Carnival, sponsored by the Washington Union Label League, with 35 exhibits and numerous other features, including special movies, entertainment, music, free prizes, and occasional brief informative talks, in which such leaders as Frank Morrison, A. F. of L. secretary-treasurer; E. M. Ornburn, secretary of the A. F. of L. Union Label Trades Department; John R. Haggerty, president of the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders; William Calvin, secretary-treasurer of the A. F. of L. Metal Trades Department; Joseph Lentz, and other leading officers participated, in addition to many local labor officials.

Central Labor Union Holds Special Ceremonies

The big week opened with special ceremonies by the Central Labor Union, featuring an address by Secretary-Treasurer Morrison, in which he declared that "Union Label Week is worthy of sincere observance" and "organized labor has reached its present position of respect and of influence because it has proven practical and proven essential to the social and economic development of our people."

The ceremonies got in the movie news reels.

Four special radio programs in eight days were arranged free by Albert N. Dennis, labor broadcaster for Station WJSV of the Columbia Broadcasting System, who has presented the "Labor News Review" program under auspices of The Trades Unionist for nearly four years. Mr. Dennis also acted as master of ceremonies at the Central Labor Union's formal opening of the week and at the Union Label Exhibit and Carnival. Carl H. Klein served capably as Union Label League's general chairman on arrangements, while the entire labor movement here rendered effective cooperation in achieving spectacular success for Union Label Week.

Deluge of Canadian Lumber Victimizes American Labor in Northwestern States

(Continued from Page 1)
native omitets as conditions warrant."

Cheap Labor Gets Preference

The Oregon-Washington Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers contends that the difference between standards of union conditions in the United States and the low wage scales, together with the prevalence of long hours, in British Columbia, affects production costs from 13 to 15 per 1,000 board feet of lumber produced.

Foreign Lumber Bought for Projects Financed by U. S. Government

It is also contended that, while the American law provides that only materials of domestic origin may be used in construction work financed in whole or in part by the Federal Government, absence of identification renders it impossible to provide a certain method of excluding the foreign lumber which projects that make use of Federal funds, the statement says, it is allowed imported into the work.

While American labor would benefit through protection of gains already made, by an official ban on foreign lumber, it is declared that the Columbia labor would also benefit.

Vigorous protests over the wage evils of the situation are being made to proper authorities, in conjunction with an effort to acquaint the American public with the facts in the case.

LA FOLLETTE COMMITTEE CALLS MANUFACTURERS

(Continued from Page 1)
served upon the National Civic Federation of New York; The Constitutional Educational League of New Haven, Connecticut; The National Association of Manufacturers of New York; the Johnstown Chamber of Commerce, Johnstown, Pa., League for Industrial Rights, New York; New York State Economic Council, New York; George Williams & Co.; and various individuals."

Purpose of Probe Outlined

In explaining the purpose of the hearing the statement said:

"The present study is an outgrowth of previous surveys made by the Committee in Minnesota, in Michigan and in Pennsylvania on similar and related subjects in recent months. In connection with this work, various associations, committees, organizations and individuals have been subpoenaed from time to time.

"Among them have been the Citizens Alliance of Associated Industries, Inc., of Minneapolis, Minnesota; the Johnstown Citizens Committee of Johnstown, Pa., and the Citizens National Committee of New York, as well as many individuals directly connected with these and other similar groups.

"The scope of the Committee's study will include the groups which have as a purpose the defeating or influencing of the right of labor to organize and bargain collectively, or which tend to influence or repress the rights of free speech and assembly."

NEWSPRINT OUTPUT CURB PLANNED BY DUPLESSIS

Premier Declares Quebec Government Will Not Tolerate Overproduction in Paper Mills.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

A determination to prevent "ruinous overproduction" in the newsprint industry has been announced by Premier Duplessis of the Province of Quebec, Canada.

In an interview at Montreal the Premier said that certain groups whose interests were not in conformity with the interest of Canada or the Province of Quebec had taken steps to obtain overproduction in paper mills.

Pointing out that "overproduction would first of all ruin the industry, both employers and laborers, and afterwards our economic wealth, the Premier of the Province and the county," the Premier added:

"We have legitimate and effective means of action which we would apply without weakness or hesitation. For the Government intends to protect and safeguard the interests of the thousands of workers engaged in the industry and those of the Province."

STRIKE BREAKERS HIRED BY KANSAS CITY STORE

(Continued from Page 1)
pocket money that rightfully belongs to workers.

Checks Paid $5 Per Week

Although loyal men and women, capable employees, lulled me long as seven-ty hours per week, for as low as $5 per week, were told that it was impossible to continue to meet obligations under these conditions, organized labor's demands for improvement in their demands were refused. Yet the same firm can afford to pay from $6 to $15 a day to competent strikebreakers, hoping perhaps that it may be possible to create a state of affairs to hold down wages and working conditions to sub-standard levels.

Conditions such as this naturally arouse the ire of any broad-minded, public spirited citizen. And organized labor proposes to do something about it!

FURNESS LINER IS SENT TO ENGLAND FOR REPAIRS

Labor Officials Vision Plan to Overhaul "Monarch of Bermuda" in Port of Boston as Scheme to Get Rid of Union Crew.

New York, N. Y. (AFLNS).—Claiming that costs of overhauling will be less in England than in America, the Furness-Bermuda liner Monarch of Bermuda, for traveling on which Congressional urgent need thousands of dollars annually, is being sent to Falmouth, England, for overhaul, it was charged.

Labor officials are wondering, however, if the act may be intended to serve as a coup to secure a more tractable crew, a strike recently against the Monarch's International Longshoremen's Association, A. F. of L. union, establishment of which was the latest in ships which is owned by Furness, Withy & Ltd.

E. F. Rees, general manager here for the owners, denied that the crew was to be replaced, but added, on deny that no replacements would be hired while the Monarch of Bermuda's absence of three weeks.

Frank J. Foley, president of the I. L. A., has declared that the union would protect the crew against discharge and would prevent the wage increases which the men gained through their membership in the militant American Federation of Labor seamen's organization.

WAREHOUSEMEN WIN WAGE BOOST PACT IN OAKLAND

Oakland, Calif. (AFLNS).—General Warehousemen's Union No. 854 has secured a closed shop agreement with the Pacific Coast Biscuit Co., operators of notion and novelty stores throughout the East Bay district. The victory brought average wage increases of 25 per cent and established the 40 hour work week for these workers.

HOLLY SUGAR COMPANY SIGNS A. F. OF L. PACT

La Junta, Colo. (AFLNS).—Workers employed by the Swink plant of the Holly Sugar Corporation, have recently joined the strong A. F. of L. union, have already secured a union contract with the corporation, bringing substantial wage increases.

Tool and Die Makers Win Wage Increase in Racine

Racine, Wis. (AFLNS).—A mid-west conference of representatives of local unions of the International Association of Machinists, recently held in Kenosha, revealed outstanding progress being made in the International A. F. of L. union.

Typical of this progress, officials state, is the results obtained by the local of tool and die makers and machinists who recently secured substantial increases in wages for the second time this year, in a new contract with the Harvey Steel Spring Company. The contract also provides improved working conditions.

Fort Worth Bus Line Men Vote For Machinists Union

Fort Worth, Texas (AFLNS).—By a vote of 133 to 53, shopmen employed by the Greyhound bus lines here have decisively defeated the Greyhound Employees' Union, a company set-up, and selected the International Association of Machinists as their exclusive collective bargaining agency.

The consent election was conducted by the National Labor Relations Board and balloting was conducted at various points along the Greyhound routes in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Colorado, Arkansas and Louisiana.

COMMERCIAL WIRE MEN CHALLENGE LABOR BOARD

Telegraphers Union Seeks Injunction Prohibiting Postal Telegraph Employes Election, Asked by C. I. O. Affiliate.

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—The Commercial Telegraphers' Union petitioned the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia to issue an injunction enjoining the National Labor Relations Board from taking any steps to hold an election on a union-wide basis in the Postal Telegraph system to choose a collective bargaining agency for the company's employes. A petition for such an election was recently filed with the board by the American Radio Telegraphists Association, a C. I. O. affiliate.

The petition for the injunction claimed that the Labor Board passed upon certain claims which it had previously set out first having afforded the Commercial Telegraphers' Union an opportunity to be heard in the matter. The petitioners asserted that the National Labor board overstepped its authority under the National Labor Relations Act.

In a statement announcing the filing of the petition for an injunction, Frank B. Powers of the Telegraphers' Union said:

"We are in no sense opposing the final holding of an election by the Labor Board. On the contrary, we welcome an election to ascertain the desires of the Postal Telegraph system conducted under circumstances which will give all the employes, whether they are members of our union or otherwise, the opportunity to express themselves with all the facts before them, and not otherwise."

BURIAL COOPERATIVES CUT UNDERTAKERS' FEES

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The rapid growth of consumers' cooperation in the United States creates interest in a project of a group of farmers living in the vicinity of Pella, Iowa, in applying the cooperative principle to reducing the excessive cost of funerals charged by undertakers who operate their establishments for maximum profits.

Eight years ago a number of farmers in the Pella district organized local cooperatives to function without the profit motive, the result being that the services of undertakers in the district are performed for practically half the charges demanded by private undertakers.

According to Reuben Schakel, president of the Iowa State Federation of Cooperative Burial Associations, a group in and around Pella met to see if something could be done about reducing the "high cost of funeral service and caskets." They believed "they were being taken advantage of at a time when their bargaining power was at its lowest ebb."

With 350 families signed up, the first burial co-op rented a building, employed a licensed embalmer, bought a complete line of caskets, a hearse and other necessary equipment and started operations. Years later a beautiful funeral home was purchased and today membership in the Pella co-op has increased to 869 families.

The complete cost of the most inexpensive funeral is $97 in the Pella elaborate, $172. To this may be added $50 for a burial lot in a cemetery if that is desired. Inspired by the success of the Pella co-op, nine other cooperative burial associations have been organized in Iowa and a State Federation created to assist in the organization of new associations.

ENGINEERS SIGN AGREEMENT WITH ICE FIRM IN HOUSTON

Houston, Texas (AFLNS).—The Henke Artesian Ice and Refrigerating Company, operating the largest ice concern of its kind in the South, has signed a union agreement with Stationary Engineers Local Union No. 126, the first and so far the only agreement the union has been able to secure with ice manufacturers, although others are expected.

The Henke contract brought a wage increase of 11 per cent to the firm's 40 machinists, currently working an 8 hour week, along with other union advantages.

SOUTH BEND TAXI DRIVERS FINALIZE TWO AGREEMENTS

South Bend, Ind. (AFLNS).—With the Labor Board acting as conciliator and mediator, a taxi drivers' strike of possible consequence was averted here when two leading concerns signed agreements with the Taxicab Drivers Union, A. F. of L. affiliate, covering drivers for the De Luxe Cab Company, and with the Yellow Cab Company, establishes $16 as the weekly minimum.

DES MOINES CINEMA UNION SIGNS 4 MORE THEATRES

Des Moines, Iowa. (AFLNS).—Moving Picture Machine Operators' Local Union No. 298 has succeeded in securing union contracts with the Garden Theatre, Theatre Highland, Harvee, Iowa and Grand, all of which previously had been operated as open shops. Organized labor secured a greatly improved working conditions for the operators.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION DODGERS IN OHIO FLAYED

President of State Building Trades Council Urges Union Drive to Expose all Law-Violating Employers; Prevailing Wage Rate Statute Is Also Invoked.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The 92nd General Assembly of Ohio passed a law, sponsored by organized labor, requiring the payment of prevailing wage rates on public projects.

Reports of chiselers trying to dodge the new statute have become more or less common, resulting in a sound denunciation of the dodgers recently by President Jockel of the Ohio Building Trades Council who is also warning unions to see that all employers make proper report and pay the necessary tax under the famous Ohio Workmen's Compensation Law, originally drafted and followed through the Ohio State Legislature by William Green, president of the powerful Federation of Labor, then an Ohio State Senator.

All building trades unions have been requested to file prevailing rate of pay established for their respective craft, with the Department of Industrial Relations, for each county. Under the law, employers are required to ascertain the prevailing rate of pay, under appropriate penalty.

The laws are related, since failure to pay prevailing rates would result in failure to pay full Workmen's Compensation premiums to cover their employes properly.

The Payroll and Estimate Compliance Section of the Industrial Commission has been established to investigate complaints against non-complying employers and to check payrolls of firms believed to be avoiding full premium payments. It is the announced intention of Ohio unions to cooperate in preventing chislers from competing unfairly with those who wish to and do comply with the law.

CCC PROVIDES FORESTRY EDUCATION FOR 1,500

Washington, D. C. (AFLNS).—Approximately 1,500 young men in lines of forestry schools and other colleges gained practical field experience in Civilian Conservation Corps camps during the Summer of 1937 as student assistants on the technical supervisory staffs of the camps.

According to a CCC statement the student assistants, or "student technicians." These men were employed at salaries of $30 per month for 6 months, the time pending upon the extent and nature of their college training. They worked for their clothing, food, and living expenses out of their salaries.

Approximately 70 of the students were employed by the Department of Agriculture, in camps supervised by the Forest Service, the Soil Conservation Service, the Bureau of Biological Survey, the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, and other agencies of that department.

A total of 654 students were employed by the Department of the Interior for the Summer.

Young Indians served as student technicians in some Indian reservation camps, and there were four student technicians in the Hawaii camps.

MACHINISTS GAIN HIGHER WAGE CONTRACT IN OWOSSO

Owosso, Mich. (AFLNS).—Increased wages, the 8-hour day and other benefits were gained by members of Local Lodge No. 1409, International Association of Machinists, in a contract with the Hartley Machine Company here.

The agreement, negotiated without strike or threat of strike, brought an immediate increase of 5 cents an hour, establishment of the 45-hour week, with maximum pay, with time and a half for overtime. The union is also recognized as the sole collective bargaining agency for employes of the firm.

FILLING STATION UNION FORMED IN SPRINGFIELD

Springfield, Ohio (AFLNS).—Springfield Filling Station Operators and Attendants' Union No. 2177, recently chartered here by the American Federation of Labor, has already taken in many additional members.

The new local was installed by H. A. Bradley, of Akron, national president of the Council of Filling Station Operators and Attendants, composed of local A. F. of L. unions throughout the country.

Two Vegetable Oil Workers Unions Chartered in Fresno

Fresno, Calif (AFLNS).—With organization here and in Los Angeles of two new A. F. of L. unions of vegetable oil workers, the vegetable oil group, already well organized in Southern California, is becoming one of the important organized labor groups of the State.

A thousand workers in this community are expected to benefit through the two new locals. Complete organization of the Northern district is under way.

Installation of the charter of the local union was attended by F. J. Metcalf, A. F. of L. organizer, and F. F. Prier, of the Los Angeles vegetable oil workers.

WEST COAST BUTCHERS FIX WAGE OF POULTRY WORKERS

San Francisco, Calif. (AFLNS).—Following recent signing of an agreement by the Butchers' Union with employers covering all unions demands except a wage increase, which is to be worked out in the different communities, the Western Federation of Butchers has established minimum wages for poultry workers.

The federation covers the industry from Bakersfield to Oregon. The action is believed to be the first broadly based attempt by the employers' association to set prices for the industry.

Among union prices was that of 15 cents for killing, removing and dressing bird, 12½ cents of which goes to the picker and the remaining 2½ cents is divided between the sticker and the scalder. The 15-cent rate is for standard birds, with 20 cents picked turkeys in 20 cents. The butchers' union is secretary-treasurer. Acting accepted generally by employers.

EVERETT RETAIL CLERKS BALLOT FOR A. F. OF L.

Everett, Wash. (AFLNS).—The growing preference sound policies of the American Federation of Labor was again demonstrated when a new union of retail clerks here voted 300 to 19 to select the Retail Clerks' International Protective Association, A. F. of L. unit, as their collective bargaining agency.

UNIONIST GETS COLLEGE COURSE WITH FULL PAY

Milwaukee Fabricated Metal Workers Union Provides Scholarship For Wisconsin University Summer School.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Fabricated Metal Workers' Union No. 19346, A. F. of L. unit composed of employes of the Gueder, Peaschke & Frey Company, of Milwaukee, will have a member attend college at full pay next Summer.

Selection of the member is being made by the Educational Committee of the union, on the basis of examinations between those members who have been attending evening courses of the Milwaukee Workers' College, conducted by the University Extension Division of the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee.

The fortunate member selected for the scholarship, it is declared, will attend the "geek" courses at the University of Wisconsin's summer school for workers in industry, with full pay for his usual wage rate throughout the period of the course.

SHORTER HOURS ASKED FOR COUNTY EMPLOYES

Officials in Milwaukee Start Survey That Visions Forty-Hour Week for 4,700 Civil Service Workers.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Milwaukee, Wis. The working time of 4,700 civil county employes to 40 hours a week, without increasing the budget is being considered in the budget problems being considered by heads of Milwaukee county, Wisconsin, in which Milwaukee is located.

Board Objects to Higher Taxes

The County Board's public welfare and finance committee has asked county department heads to survey and suggest plans for shorter hours, following demands by organized labor. Union officials insist that the budget problem not press for immediate drastic reduction in hours, but really mount increased taxes, but they insist higher taxes are unnecessary. The Board is adament in insisting that any reduction in hours must not increase either the budget or the payroll.

Urged by Labor Unions

Meantime, Supervisor Frederic Heath has submitted a resolution intended to establish a 40-hour maximum work week for county employes. It is stated that investigations indicate that 1,000 county employes may benefit by reduced working hours eventually, through effective organization.

Representatives of the Building Trades Council, the Holding Engineers' Union and Local No. 58, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, A. F. of L. units, attended the County Board meeting that ordered the survey.

The resolution establishing the 40-hour week survey is being kept before the Board pending a report on the proposed survey.

CANADA SEEKS UNIFORM OLD-AGE PENSION PLAN

Dominion Government Pays Seventy-Five Per Cent of Cost; Asks Greater Efficiency in Provincial Administration.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Greater efficiency in the administration of pensions for the aged in Canada is sought in a conference just held in Ottawa between officials of the Dominion Government and the Provincial Governments.

Under the Canadian old age pension system the Dominion Government pays seventy-five per cent of the cost of old age pensions, the Provinces paying the remaining twenty-five per cent and administering pensions under the existing arrangement which provides for administration of old age pensions by the Provinces.

This plan has been applicable to all Provinces since New Brunswick started participation in the pension plan July 1, 1936, and Quebec August 1 of the same year.

Estimates for the present fiscal year, which ends March 31, 1938, covering 146,524 pensioners, fixed the Dominion's share of old age pension cost at $23,149,851 from an expenditure of $23,149,851 for the last fiscal year.

FISH WAREHOUSE WORKERS ORGANIZE IN VERMILLION

Vermillion, Ohio (AFLNS).—Practically every warehouse in this city of 2 million has been 100 per cent organized, the workers becoming members of Fish Handlers' Union No. 21316, recently chartered by the American Federation of Labor.

John Schraler, A. F. of L. representative on the staff of Coleman Claherty, in charge of the Cleveland office of the Federation, has announced that union agreements similar to those in effect in Cleveland will be submitted to managers of Vermillion's several fish warehouses.

SOVIET UNION ARTISTS GIVEN WAGE REDUCTION

All-Union Art Committee Grades Singers and Actors According to Talents; Cheaper Concerts Are Desired.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is now according to reliable reports from Moscow, regulating the income of actors, singers and other concert artists, the All-Union Art Committee grading talent arbitrarily and fixing maximum and minimum rates.

It is stated that first-grade artists may receive up to $120 for a single performance, with fourth-grades getting $10. Monthly salaries for members of theatre and opera companies have been set at from $500 for the highest rated stars down to $50, or less than $20 a week, for those in the lowest grades. Soviet radio performers are credited with 75 per cent of these.

Both income and expenditures are strongly controlled in the U. S. S. R., but it is apparent that uses for money similar to workers needs and aspirations is non-Communist matters.

The ordinary Moscow wage-earner and his family, it is stated, must be content to live in one room in the apartment shared with other families, due to inadequate housing. But "visitors," as all are called in the Soviet Union, will become able to do so may buy an apartment in a co-operative building or a place in the country. They may also dress better than others, have wines and more food and perhaps give receptions.

All workers may be said to be on "piece work," with earning capacity limited only by an interpretation of income or some committee as to the "value" of the service.

Newfoundland Loggers Seize Ship, Gain Increased Wages

St. John's, Newfoundland (AFLNS), Nov. 20.—Following a general tieup in the Baie Verte district of Newfoundland recently when 500 loggers after laying off in strike for a week, seized the Newfoundland Government's coastal steamer Glencoe Argyle, on which conferences between union representatives and company officials were being held, and refused to permit the vessel to sail until the conferees reached a satisfactory agreement.

The men gained an increase of 50 cents per cord at the already high rate of wood for export by the Bowater Company of Euxland.

COOPERATIVE SCHOOL IS OPENED FOR EXECUTIVES

Institute in New York Provides Training for Efficient Administration of Consumers' Cooperatives.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

A cooperative college, officially known as the Cooperative Institute, was recently opened in New York City to provide a training school for cooperative executives and educators.

This venture in education is sponsored by the Cooperative League of the United States, whose president is Dr. James F. Warbasse.

The cooperative college drew students from seventy associations in the United States who want to train themselves for positions of responsibility in the rapidly growing consumers' cooperative movement.

The first term, opened October 11, will run eight weeks, through December 5. Following this course students will be placed in cooperative associations for eight weeks of field work after which they may supplement their academic training with practical experience.

The college curriculum includes specialized training in education and business methods to equip students for work in each type of cooperative executives or educators. In addition a general cultural course is open to all who are interested.

The faculty of the school is composed of leaders in cooperative thought in educational institutions in New York and experts who will give special lectures on technical phases of the movement.

LAUNDRY WORKERS FORM LARGE UNION IN DENVER

Denver, Colo. (AFLNS).—Over 400 women laundry workers have already joined a new A. F. of L. laundry workers' local union here, with the organization of soon effecting improvements sorely needed.

These women workers have been receiving from $6 to $15 a week, with most of them in the lower bracket, the average pay being 21 cents an hour, a recent survey showed. Monthly salaries of the group surveyed averaged $36, with many getting $28 and even less.

Undeterred by threats, reported intimidations and the familiar "lay-offs" of active unionists, the new Industrial Clearing and Laundry Workers' Local Union is striving for the goal of 100 per cent organization.